

Testimony

Before The

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Public Hearing March 16, 2009 Regarding HB-6375

Senator Slossberg, Representative Spallone and distinguished members of the committee, thank you for your time to hear my testimony. My name is Roger Stolting and I currently hold several licenses in this state within the purview of 3 occupational licensing boards, and am a past contractor member of the Plumbing, Piping & Work Examining Board. I am opposed to the termination of these boards as listed in Section 1. (57), (58) & (61).

Having served on an occupational licensing board for approximately 8 years I have witnessed first hand the importance and need of the board structure to provide advice and assistance in adopting regulations pertaining to practices, set standards, provide bench marks for experience and required training to qualify an applicant to sit for examination. We also provide advice and assistance in determining where limited licensing is required. Several of the other duties we provide include licensing application review for special circumstances, licensing examination review (ever changing codes and product introductions), provide continuing education content requirements and review provider's instructional contents, watch industry and co-ordinate it's effects licenses, provide a forum where a license holder can be heard by his peers if needed.

With all the emphasis on higher technology and the training that goes along with it, I find it wrong to terminate these boards. This will only lead to the watering down of our industry standards, add a larger work load to paid staff (which has already been over burdened for years). What this will lead to is less licensing enforcement, less accountability & substandard workmanship. In the end we will all pay a greater price than we think we may save.

I currently am working as a Manufacturers' Representative and see first hand the difference in abilities where licensing is well administered with feedback from industry professionals (licensing boards).

Please leave these boards intact and if anything provide them with more resources so we can make our homes safer and more efficient.

Thank you, Roger Stolting

